

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
ABSTRACT

Telangana State Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 – Diversion of 0.6707 ha of forest land (FP/TG/OFC/489953/2024) in Kawal RF of WLM Jannaram forest division under Mancherla District for laying of Optical Fiber Cable along the road and within the existing Right of Way in favour of M/s. Jio Digital Fibre Private Limited– In-principle (Stage.I) approval accorded – Orders –Issued.

ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (FOR.I) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No. 28

Dated: 13-03-2025

Read the following:-

1. Government of India, MoEF&CC(FC Division), New Delhi, Dt:29-12-2023 (Consolidated Guidelines and Clarifications on Van(Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and Van(Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023).
2. From the PCCF (HoFF), T.G. Hyd., Rc.No.FC3/FC15/24/2024-FCA Section, dt:30.11.2024
3. Minutes of the 8th meeting of State Board for Wildlife held on 24.02.2025 at 11.00 AM
4. From the PCCF(P&V)&CWW, T.G, Hyd., Rc.No.3820/2020/WL1, Dt:07.03.2025.

ORDER:

In the letter 2nd read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Telangana, Hyderabad has submitted a proposal under section-2 of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980, for diversion of 0.6707 ha of forest land (FP/TG/OFC/489953/2024) in Kawal RF of WLM Jannaram forest division under Mancherla District for laying of Optical Fiber Cable along the road and within the existing Right of Way in favour of M/s. Jio Digital Fibre Private Limited. Vide reference 3rd read above, the subject proposal got Wildlife Clearance in 8th Meeting of State Board for Wildlife held on 24.02.2025.

2. The proposal has been examined with reference to the guidelines issued by the Government of India in the letter 1st read above.

3. Government after careful examination of the proposal and in exercise of the powers delegated to State Government in the guidelines issued by Government of India in the letter 1st read above, hereby accord in-principle (Stage.I) approval for diversion of 0.6707 ha of forest land (FP/TG/OFC/489953/2024) in Kawal RF of WLM Jannaram forest division under Mancherla District for laying of Optical Fiber Cable along the road and within the existing Right of Way in favour of M/s. Jio Digital Fibre Private Limited, subject to compliance of the following conditions:-

- i. The legal status of the forest land shall remain unchanged;
- ii. Demarcation of the forest land diverted: The State Forest Department shall carry out demarcation of the proposed forest area by erecting 4 feet high cement concrete pillars duly numbered at an interval of 20 meters at the cost of the User Agency and cost for which shall be deposited by the User Agency with the forest department as assessed by the concerned District Forest Officer/ Forest Divisional Officer;
- iii. Net Present Value:
 - a) The State Government shall charge the Net Present Value (NPV) for the 0.6707 ha forest area to be diverted under this proposal from the User Agency as per the orders of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India dated 30/10/2002,

(PTO)

01/08/2003, 28/03/2008, 24/04/2008 and 09/05/2008 in IA.No.566 in WP (C) No.202/1995 and as per the guidelines issued by the Ministry vide letters No.5-1/1998-FC (Pt.II) dated 18/09/2003, as well as letter No.5-2/2006-FC dated 03/10/2006 and 5-3/2007-FC dated 05/02/2009 in this regard;

b) Additional amount of the NPV of the diverted forest land, if any, becoming due after finalization of the same by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on receipt of the report from the Expert Committee, shall be charged by the State Government from the User Agency. The User Agency shall furnish an undertaking to the effect;

- iv. Compensatory Afforestation(CA): As per latest rules and guidelines issued on 29.12.2023 by Ministry on compensatory afforestation, the raising of 100 plants in forest land at the cost of User Agency towards compensatory afforestation even there is no tree felling in the proposed area of diversion which is less than one hectare.
- v. Wildlife Mitigation Measures: An amount of Rs.9.53 Lakhs to be deposited by the User Agency as stipulated in Wildlife clearance by 8th meeting of State Board for Wildlife in letter dt:24.02.2025 and other conditions stipulated therein.
- vi. No tree felling and branch cutting shall be carried out by the User agency;
- vii. User Agency shall fulfill the conditions stipulated in Part II, Part III and Part IV and also covering letters, inspections notes of the proposals;
- viii. The depth of the trench shall not be more than 2 m and width shall not be more than 0.4 m and after laying down of optical fiber cable the ground shall be levelled. The cable line should be laid atleast one meter below the ground;
- ix. Disturbance should be kept minimum by creating labor camps outside the forest areas and it will be responsibility of the User Agency to ensure that the laborers and staff engaged in execution of work do not destruct nearby forest flora and fauna. No labour camp shall be established on the forest land;
- x. Sufficient firewood, preferably the alternate fuel, shall be provided by the User Agency to the labourer after purchasing the same from the State Forest Department or the Forest Development Corporation or any other legal source of alternate fuel;
- xi. The layout plan of the proposal shall not be changed without prior approval of Central Government;
- xii. The muck generated in the earth cutting if any, will be disposed off at the designated sites and in no case the muck/ debris will be disposed off in the forest area by the User Agency'
- xiii. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the project proposal;
- xiv. The forest land proposed to be diverted shall under no circumstances be transferred to any other agencies, department or person without prior approval of competent authority;

- xv. Any other condition that the Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of India as well as State Forest Department/ PCCF(HoFF) may stipulate from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection and development of forests & wildlife, shall be complied by the User Agency;
 - xvi. The total forest area utilized for the project shall not exceed 0.6707 ha and the forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal;
 - xvii. The User Agency to make good the land after use/ maintenance;
 - xviii. The User Agency to make good any loss to forests / environment;
 - xix. The User Agency should take permission for carrying out any maintenance;
 - xx. Work should be carried out during day time only;
 - xxi. The User Agency and the State Government shall ensure compliance of all the Court orders, provisions, rules, regulations and guidelines for the time being in force as applicable to the project;
 - xxii. The compliance report shall be uploaded on e-portal (<https://parivesh.nic.in/>).
 - xxiii. Violation of any of these conditions will amount to violation of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and action would be taken as prescribed in para 1.21 of Chapter 1 of the Handbook of Comprehensive Guidelines of Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Adhiniyam, 1980 and Van (Sanrakshan Evam Samvardhan) Rules, 2023 as issued by this Ministry's letter dated.29.12.2023.
 - xxiv. This proposal has obtained the approval from State Board for Wildlife in the Minutes of 8th Meeting held on 24.02.2025.
4. This in-principle (Stage-I) approval shall be valid for a period of two years from the date of issue of this G.O. in the event of non-compliance of the above conditions, the in-principle (Stage-I) approval shall automatically stand revoked after two years.
5. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF), Telangana, Hyderabad, is therefore, directed to take further necessary action accordingly in the matter.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF TELANGANA)

AHMAD NADEEM
PRINCIPAL SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (HoFF),
Telangana, Hyderabad.

Copy to:

The Director General, Government of India, Ministry of Environment & Forests and Climate Change (Forest Conservation Division),
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, Aliganj, Jorbagh Road, New Delhi 110 003.
The Regional Office(SEZ), Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change, 1st and 2nd Floor, Handloom Export Promotion Council,
34, Cathedral Garden Road,Nungambakkam, Chennai -34.

The Inspector General of Forests(C),Suboffice, MoEF&CC, Hyderabad,
(RO, Chennai),6th Floor, Aranya bhavan, Hyderabad.
The M/s. Jio Digital Fiber Private Limited, 204, Lake Shore Towers,
Raj Bhavan Road, Somajiguda, Hyderabad – 500 082.
SC.

//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER